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Refund Dates

This handy chart shows an estimated timeline for when a taxpayer is likely to receive their refund, based on IRS information, and using projections based on previous years. If your IRS income tax refund is delayed, ask your tax professional...

Jan. 15, 2020



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The IRS says it will officially start accepting income tax returns on January 27, 2020. The good news is that there's no reason to get refund loans or other such services, since you can get your refund in as little as 10 days if you file early and e-file your tax return.

Several factors can determine when a taxpayer may receive their return, including:

- How early they file

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The below chart shows an estimated timeline for when a taxpayer is likely to receive their refund, based on the information we have now, and using projections based on previous years. If your IRS income tax refund is delayed, ask your tax professional, or simply use the “[Where's My Refund?](#)” tool on the IRS website. Or download the [IRS2Go app](#) to check your refund status.

“When Will I Get My 2020 Income Tax Refund?”

IRS Accepts Between These Dates ==== > Direct Deposit Sent (Or Check Mailed)

1/27/2020- 1/31/2020 — > Friday 2/7/2020

2/3/2020 – 2/7/2020 — > Friday 2/14/2020

2/10/2020- 2/14/2020 — > Friday 2/21/2020 **

2/17/2020- 2/21/2020 — > Friday 2/28/2020

2/24/2020- 2/28/2020 — > Friday 3/6/2020

3/2/2020- 3/6/2020 — > Friday 3/20/2020 ***

3/9/2020- 3/13/2020 — > Friday 3/27/2020

3/16/2020- 3/20/2020 — > Friday 4/3/2020

3/23/2020- 3/27/2020 — > Friday 4/10/2020

** = Returns with EITC or CTC may have refunds delayed until late February to verify credits.

*** = Filing during peak season can result in slightly longer waits.

3/29/2020- 4/3/2020 — > Friday 4/17/2020

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5/11/2020- 5/15/2020 — > Friday 5/29/2020

5/18/2020- 5/22/2020 — > Friday 6/5/2020

5/25/2020- 5/29/2020 — > Friday 6/12/2020

6/1/2020- 6/5/2020 — > Friday 6/19/2020

IMPORTANT: If you file electronically (using an online tax program or preparer), the IRS will notify you of the actual date they “accepted” your return. This is often 1-3 days from the time you actually hit the “file” or “submit” button, and it is this date that you need to use for the above chart.

Taxpayers who mail a paper version of their income tax return can expect at least a 3-4 week delay at the front-end of the process, as the return has to be manually entered into the IRS system before it can be processed.

Be Safe – Hire a Professional

Taxpayers who use a professional, such as a CPA or EA, can ask that professional for the estimated date of their tax refund, and they can be more confident that their taxes have been properly (and legally) filed.

There are also [apps for Apple, Android and other devices](#) that help track refund status.

Other Notes:

In general, the IRS says that returns with refunds are processed and payments issued within 21 days. For paper filers, this can take much longer, however. The IRS and tax professionals strongly encourage electronic filing.

What If You Can't File Your Income Taxes By April 15?

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with this. Those who are due a refund generally only need to file the extension request by April 15. Any tax professional and most do-it-yourself tax programs can perform this task.

IRS

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